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TEXT:

THE SCIENCE OF CLIMATE CHANGE

&One of many natural factors affecting climate may be changes in the brightness of the Sun over decades to centuries. The magnetism on the Sun's surface is marked by the coverage of sunspots - cool areas of intense magnetic fields. The number of sunspots varies over an 11-year period. This magnetic cycle is linked to a brightening and fading in the Sun's total energy output. Solar brightness changes measuring a few tenths of a percent, sustained over decades, could drive global temperatures to change.

&Assuming that the Sun's magnetic change is a proxy for the Sun's changing brightness, computer simulations of the climate suggest that a change of 0.4% in the Sun's brightness would produce observed global average temperature changes of about 0.5 C over the last 100 years. 8
[From &Increasing Carbon Dioxide and Global Climate Change, 8 by Sallie Baliunas and Willie Soon; <http://www.marshall.org/article.php?id=13>]